Announcement is made of the following award:

Award: Meritorious Unit Commendation
Period of service: 6 October 2008 to 28 September 2009
Authority: AR 600-8-22, paragraph 7-15
Reason: For exceptionally meritorious service. During the period 6 October 2008 to 28 September 2009, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment and its subordinate units displayed exceptionally meritorious service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit demonstrated the ability to simultaneously conduct multiple counter-insurgency operations, civil improvement operations, and Iraqi Security Force partnerships. The battalion also developed and implemented a combined targeting process that proved effective at gathering and sharing intelligence between United States and Iraqi Security Forces. The success of this process and the unit's ability to use the resulting intelligence to conduct combined offensive operations is evidenced by the capture of 17 high value targets in northwest Baghdad without incident or injury. Additionally, the battalion was able to transform the Iraqi Security Forces into a force capable of full-spectrum operations in support the citizens of Baghdad. The unit's dedication ensured the proper development of a polite, professional, and well-prepared Iraqi Security Force. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment's outstanding performance of duty is in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon the unit, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army.
PERMANENT ORDERS 287-86, U.S. Army Human Resources Command, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, VA 22332, 14 October 2009

Format: 320

Additional Instructions: This order serves as official notification that a unit award has been approved for the organization(s) listed above and will serve as authority for eligible Soldiers to update their records and wear the award. The award is still subject to final confirmation in Department of the Army General Orders. Official verification of a specific unit's entitlement to display the award in the form of an appropriate streamer on its flag or guidon rests with the U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH), which is also responsible for determining official unit Lineage and Honors for MTOE organizations. CMH will use this permanent order to authorize the manufacture of an appropriate decoration streamer for any organization clearly entitled to display the award, and the completed streamers will be distributed by the U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

STEWART L. STEPHENSON, JR.
LTC, AG
Chief, Military Awards Branch